



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Far East District

# EAST GATE EDITION

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## Far East District engineer presented with Modern Day Technology Award

By Stephen Satkowski  
FED Public Affairs

**K**enith Ward, Project Engineer at Kunsan Resident Office, was awarded the Modern Day Technology Award at the 2017 Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference held in Washington D.C. Feb. 9-11.

Each year the Black Engineer of the Year Awards (BEYA) Conference recognize and honor minorities who have made significant contributions and breakthroughs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

“Being multiracial (African American/Korean), this award reflects values that both my mother and father instilled in me when I was younger,” Ward said. “With my father being prior military and my mother being Asian, I think both of them teaching respect as a key component of life got me to where I am at now.”

Ward began his Corps career as an intern at the Savannah district in 2009. Before arriving at the Far East District in 2013 he deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan as an office engineer.

“One thing I will never regret is moving around with the Corps,” said Ward. “I was able to learn and work



**Lieutenant General Todd T. Semonite, Commanding General and Chief of Engineers (2nd to left) presents the Modern Day Technology Award at the 2017 Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference held in Washington D.C. Feb. 9-11 to Kenith Ward, Project Engineer at Kunsan Resident Office. (FED file photo)**

with great people including quality assurance representatives, program analysts, counsel, and various contract administration personnel. It allowed me to fully understand the Corps process and how everything is interconnected.”

Ward praised his past supervisor

at the district’s Central Resident Office, Jamie Hagio, as well as his current supervisor at Kunsan Resident Office, Chris Martin for helping him attain this recognition.

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***Far East District (FED) engineers receive on-site training to ensure proper execution of the formal source selection process at the East Gate Club Feb. 7-10 at the FED headquarters in Seoul. This course ensures engineers will gain the technical expertise needed to implement the required evaluation and selection of contract awards. (Photo by Yi Yong-un)***



***Staff Sgt. Roy Tongue, construction representative for the central resident office, receives the Army achievement medal from Far East District commander Col. Stephen H. Bales Feb. 8 for his work on a fuel farm project at Osan Air Base. (FED File photo)***



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Check out the Far East District web site at  
[www.pof.usace.army.mil](http://www.pof.usace.army.mil)

# District Commander visits Southern Resident Office in Daegu



**Col. Stephen H. Bales, Far East District Commander (center) poses for a picture with southern resident office employees and contractors outside the Army Family Housing Tower project at Camp Walker Jan. 25. (Photo by Yo Kyong-il)**



**Col. Stephen H. Bales, Far East District Commander is briefed on the Army Family Housing Tower project at Camp Walker Jan. 25 by Fernando Miranda, project engineer at the southern resident office. (Photo by Yo Kyong-il)**



**Col. Stephen H. Bales, Far East District Commander is briefed on the middle/high school project at Camp Walker Jan. 25 by Jared McCormick, project engineer at the southern resident office. (Photo by Yo Kyong-il)**

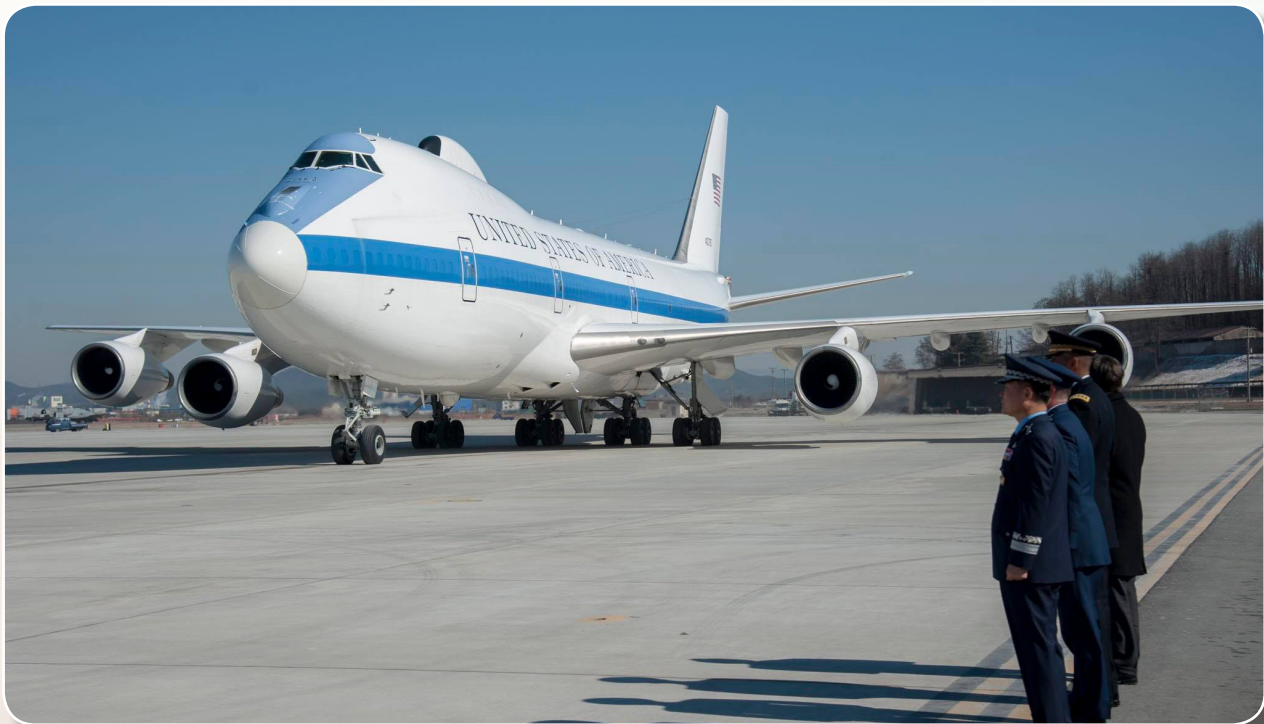
## **Far East District engineer presented with Modern Day Technology Award**

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“They allowed me to learn under more experienced personnel,” explained Ward. “I may not know everything about construction, but I am willing to learn and work in a team environment. This includes working as a team with other district branches, the user, and the contractor.”

BEYA’s first event was held in Feb. 1987 at Morgan State University in Baltimore Maryland. The BEYA STEM Conference is a talent-rich environment for recruitment, networking and professional development. In attendance are

college representatives and thousands of elite professionals and students from across the country that represent the upper echelon of science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines and careers. More than 100 companies and organizations support the rise of new graduates into technical careers such as; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lockheed Martin, Boeing Company, Northrop Grumman Cooperation., U.S. Army and U.S., Navy.



***United States Forces Korea and Republic of Korea Air Force leaders wait for Defense Secretary Jim Mattis to deplane on the cargo ramp built by Far East District central resident office engineers at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 2, 2017. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jonathan Steffen)***

# To The Point: Diversity

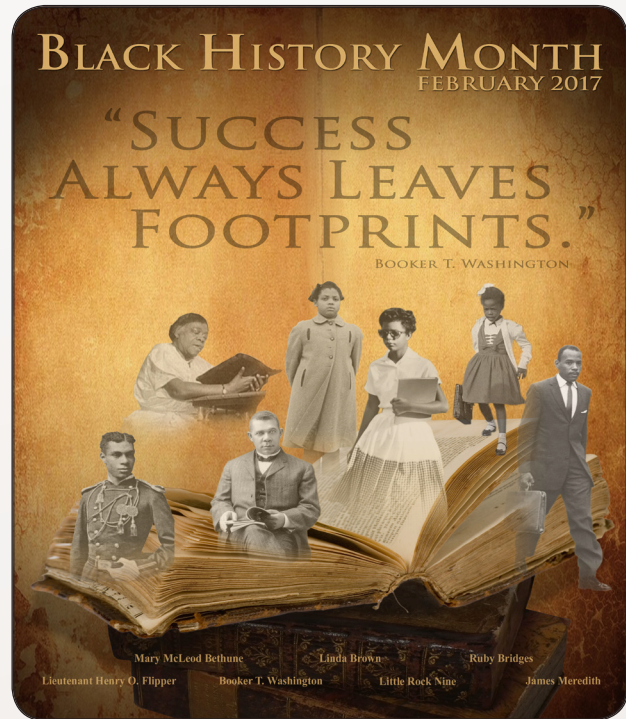
**By Valerie S. Bradley**

FED Equal Employment Opportunity Office

**W**e work for the Army and in particular for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, an organization that demands equality no matter our race, color, sex, age, national origin, genetic information, or whether or not we have a disability. The question, then, is “How does diversity benefit your organization?”

In short, diversity increases efficiency. It is the mechanism that allows the most qualified individual to get a job, a promotion, or an award. Equality removes the shackles of prejudice that bind our decision making process. To illustrate, when managers refuse to evaluate female applicants for a position, they exclude 50 percent of the population for no other reason than their sex. By so doing, they increase their chance of missing applicants who bring valuable skills to their organization.

To be clear: diversity does not, in and of itself, guarantee success. Rather, by expanding our normal purview beyond our homogenous group, diversity increases the probability that the agency will find skills, experiences and even perspectives that lead to organizational growth and maturity.



**The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District held a relocation town hall at the FED compound in Seoul Feb. 7. The town hall provided FED personnel with the latest news and updates on the relocation of the Far East District headquarters from U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan in Seoul to U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys in Pyeongtaek. (Photos by Stephen Satkowski)**



***Far East District (FED) construction representative Clifford Birgado (left) gave a tour of the Chapel site at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys to Patty Hanuschik (center), FED program analysis section chief, and her team Feb. 10. (FED file photos)***



***Far East District southern resident office engineers gave briefings on the Daegu middle and high school project and the Army Family Housing Tower project at Camp Carroll to Korean cultural advisors and Daegu high school principal Altorn Grade Feb. 8. (FED file photo)***

# *This month in FED History*

- **February** 1983: Daegu American School at Camp George opened.

- 1986: Non-Commissioned Officer and Enlisted Men's Club opened at Camp Humphreys.

- 1998: FED hosted first Contractor Certification Course.

- 1999: New drill and well maintenance equipments arrived at FED.

- 2003: Construction of Yongsan Overpass began.

- 2005: Enlisted dormitory and golf course at Osan Air Base opened.

- 2012: The new humidity controlled warehouse opened at Camp Carroll.

- 2013: Anisha Downs, FED project manager received the Modern-Day Technology Leader Award.



Sam Barnes, FED safety officer, teaches a session of FED's first contractor certification course, 1997.



Pfc. Melvin L. Brown Maintenance Facility at Camp Carroll opened, February 26, 2008. The facility is dedicated to an engineer who received the Medal of Honor posthumously for his actions in September 1950 against North Korean troops north of Daegu.

# HERE IT COMES



## **Surviving Block Leave**

Don't become a victim of the season.  
Plan ahead to survive your leave.



# READY ...OR NOT?

**Ready ... or Not** is a call to action for leaders, Soldiers, Army Civilians and Family members to assess their readiness for what lies ahead - both the known and unknown.

Throughout our professional and personal lives, events happen all around us. We are often able to shape the outcome of those events, but many times we're not. Navigating life's challenges is all about decision-making.

So are **YOU** ready ... or not?

<https://safety.army.mil>

